

2003-04 WorkFirst Local Area Planning - Innovative Project Funding Request

Name of project: Opportunities for Success Request Amount: \$5,000 Innovative Project X

Local Planning Area: Yakima County

Contact: Yolanda McGrann, CSOA, Wapato CSO

Telephone: (509) 877-8101 E-mail: McGraY@DSHS.wa.gov.

Address: P.O. Box 66 Wapato, WA 98951

Project period start/end date(s): September 15, 2003 through October 31, 2002

Funding to be used for:

☒ Project: Start/End Date: Sept 15, 2003 – Oct. 31, 2003

☐ Equipment: _____

☐ Software: _____

☐ Staff Training: _____

☒ Other: Honorariums, awards; educational materials, i.e., bags, notebooks, pens; consultant expenses; meals and snacks

Does this project involve Business Outreach, WorkFirst/WorkSource, and/or employers? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, please indicate whether or not your local Business Outreach Team is involved in the project and what their role is.)

This project involves Business Outreach, WorkFirst/WorkSource, and or employers. The local Business Outreach Team will be involved in the planning stages as well as being a partner in the forum of the conference.

The focus of Innovative Project Funding is to support WorkFirst partnership, program performance, and potential "Best Practices" through innovation. All project requests will be reviewed and approved by an interagency committee. There will be a 2-week turn around on request approvals once received. Approvals will come in the form of an email to the LPA lead submitting the request.

All requests require:

- A two-page (maximum) narrative addressing the questions below.
- Partnership signatures.
- A complete budget page.
- Approved projects will be required to complete an end of the project report.
- **Final billing must be submitted to Kelly Lindseth prior to Friday, June 25, 2004.**

Additional information maybe requested in order to approve your project. LPAs may submit multiple requests throughout the program year or until funding is exhausted.

1.	<p>Describe your project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does this project support overall WorkFirst performance goals– caseload reduction, TWI, other?• How many persons will be served through the project and what is the expected outcome? <p>If additional resources will be used to support this project, where will they come from?</p> <p>Over 200 Native American Families in the Wapato/Toppenish CSO catchment area lack the knowledge of available resources and the understanding of how to use them to re-direct their lives towards self-sufficiency. Currently well over 100 Native American families are in sanction and the number continues to climb.</p> <p>In a concerted and concentrated efforts to reduce the caseload of Native Americans on TANF, LPA partners, DSHS contractors, the Community College, Heritage College, Health Facilities, and Community Based Organizations will be invited to provide information on their agency. As part of their involvement, conference participants will receive agency contact names and numbers and a synopsis of what each resource has to offer. Major employers from the community who have positions for folks looking for career growth and benefits, will be invited to speak about what qualities they want in an employee and the types of opportunities available. Because our area's has few jobs to offer at the present time we plan to invite entrepreneurs who will offer one-on-one consultations on how to start new businesses.</p> <p>We will all work together for a common goal to strengthen the community ties and promote positive relations with WorkFirst clients.</p> <p>Our expectation will be the creation of a wave of energized individuals who are committed to positive and fulfilling lives. The information provided to Native American participants will enable the person to focus on eliminating barriers, which hinder the ability to secure employment, and structure goals in manageable ways.</p>
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2.	<p>What makes this project innovative?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What unserved need is to be addressed and for what specific population? • What is the project overall design? • What is the desired outcome? • Who will this project focus on – clients, staff, contractors, employers, other? • Should this project prove successful, what is your strategy to support beyond this initial funding? • How will you measure the success of this project? <p>Spearheaded by the Yakama Nation’s Employment Services Department and the Department of Social and Health Services Wapato/Toppenish CSO, we seek to organize a one-day conference on October 29, 2003. The mission is to bring Native American WorkFirst families together in a Conference setting and make resources available that provide meaningful direction on how to effectively work through obstacles that impede their progress to self-sufficiency. The conference also seeks to strengthen the alliance of partnerships needed to accomplish the common goal. Through the success of the project we anticipate these agencies, organizations, and businesses will take an active part in planning next year’s conference.</p> <p>The conference is designed to have speakers, a resource center with various agencies, businesses, CBOs, and colleges that will be available to address questions, or provide information. Scheduled breakout sessions such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>“Looking and Preparing for a Job/Interview”</u> <p>How to answer the hard questions such as legal issues, hidden disabilities asked by prospective employers, includes what to say on employment applications, in interviews, and what to write in a Felony Explanation Statement is discussed. How to dress for an interview, how to tailor an application for the job, and how to prepare before and after a job interview.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>“Motivation and Positive Attitude”</u> <p>Loss of motivation and negative attitudes toward work is the focus of this workshop. Becoming motivated and obtaining positive attitude is demonstrated</p> <p>Maslow’s “Heirarchy of Needs” clearly documents the fact that individuals must first have a “security net” (self-esteem) in order to climb the ladder to success. We will promote that premise throughout the conference.</p>
3.	<p>Partnerships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are the partners that will be involved in the project? • If there are new partners involved in this project, who are they and what is their role? • Are other resources being used to support this project, if so, from where? • How will this project strengthen your existing partnership? <p>The partners will include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yakama Nation Managers, Administrators, and staff • DSHS Agency staff (Regional Administrators, CSO Administrators, Managers, and WorkFirst Staff). • Employment Security • Tri-County WorkFirst

- Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
- CTED
- Indian Health Service
- People for People
- Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic
- NW Community Action Center
- NW Portland Area Indian Health Board
- Local Businesses, Entrepreneurs
- Community Based Organizations
- Yakima County
- YVCC and Heritage College
- WorkFirst Contractors (such as Rainier Case Management)
- DSHS – Department of Child Support

This project will give us the opportunity to bring together a diverse group of resources to showcase to the Community and Lawmakers. The depth of coordination is immeasurable and those benefiting the greatest are clients whose expressed needs have not fallen on deaf ears.

Additional Comments/Thoughts:

Please email this form and/or mail or FAX it with all Local Area Planning partner signatures to:

Kelly Lindseth, CTED WorkFirst
P.O. Box 42525 - 128 10th Ave SW
Olympia, WA 98504-2525
FAX : 360/586-9319
Phone: 360/752-4135

e-mail: Kellyl@cted.wa.gov

October 1, 2003

Kelly Lindseth,
WorkFirst Local Area Planning Liaison
P.O. Box 42525
Olympia, WA 98504-2525


Dear Kelly:

The following members of the Yakima/Kittitas LPA Executive Council by affixing their signatures below attest to their support of the Innovative Partnership funding application that is being submitted to request financial support for the Yakama Nation Workfirst Partnership Conference to be held in October 2003.


If you have any questions, please contact Nick Parisi (509) 574-4756 or Kathy Thomas (509) 574-1950. Thanks



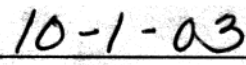
Nick Parisi, Yakima Valley Community College



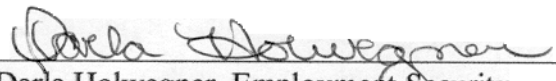
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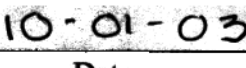
Kathy Thomas, Tri-County Workforce Council



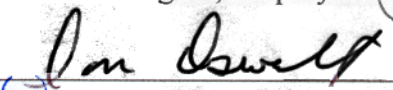
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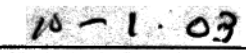
Darla Holwegner, Employment Security



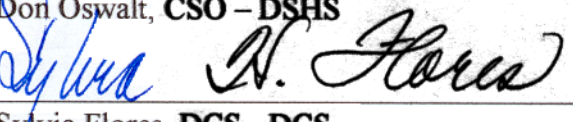
Date



Don Oswalt, CSO - DSHS



Date



Sylvia Flores, DCS - DCS



Date

cc: File